

The Lamentations
of Ieremie in
Meeter.

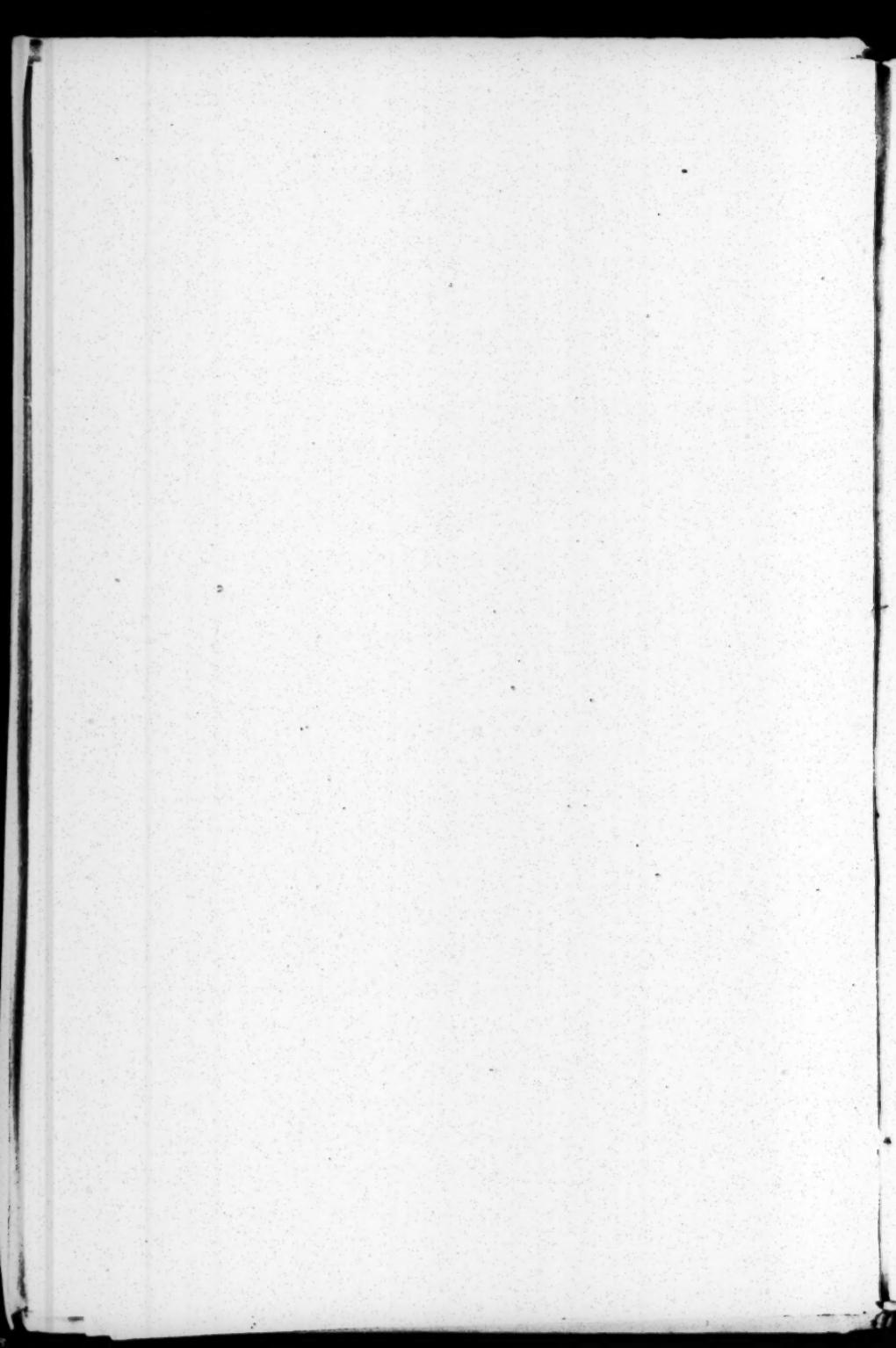
With apt notes to sing
them withall.



LONDON

Imprinted by John Wolfe, dwel-
ling in Distaffe lane neere the
signe of the Castle,

1587.





The Lamentations of Ieremy.

The first Chapter.

i The Prophet bewaileth the miserable estate of Ierusalem, 5 And sheweth that they are plagued because of their finnes.



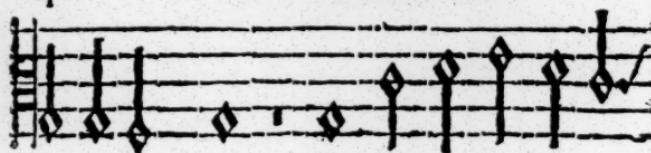
Ow doth the city now



remaine, alone in widowes case, that



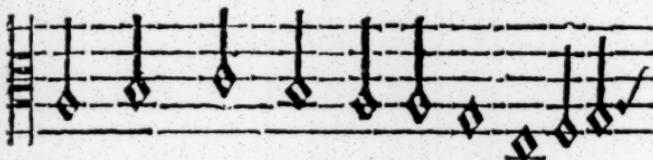
heretofore with people was, repleat
in



in euery place? She that in glory did



excell, and other countries shade: And



Princesse vvas of Prouinces, is tribu-



tary made.

- 2 She doth lament continuallie,
with teares from dewed eyes :
And all her friends her present state,
do grieuouslie despise.

Amongst

Amongst her louers she hath none
to comfort her at all :
For they her foes are now become,
and dailie from her fall.

3 Lo Iuda in captiuitie
is caried away :
Because of her oppression,
and crueltie, I say.
She dwelles among the heathen folke,
where she can find no rest :
And in the straits by enemies
was grieuouslie opprest.

4 The waies of Sion do lament,
with griefe her wretched state :
That no man commeth to the feasts,
her gates are desolate.
Her virgins are discomfited,
her priests do sigh and mone :
And she is left in deepe distresse,
and heauinessle alone.

5 Her aduersaries beare the sway,
and prosper more and more :

For

For that the Lord her doings hath
afflicted verie sore.

Because of her transgressions,
and cruell tyrannie,

Her children are in bondage gone,
before the enemie.

6 From daughter deere of Sion eke,
all beautie doth decaie :

Her princes are become as men
with sorrow pin'd awaie.

And euен as Harts that pasture want,
do trot from place to place :

So are they gone before their foes,
who do puriue the chace.

7 Hierusalem in miserie,
and manie sorrowes tost:

Began to call to memorie,
the things that she had lost.

When as her people by their foes
were slaine both farre and wide :

Whom when her enemies do behold,
her ceasings they deride.

8 In that they haue discerned well,
her sinne and wickednesse,
Yea she with sighing turneth backe
and mourneth in distresse.
Because of her offences she
to mockerie is brought,
And all that honoured her before,
do set her novv at nought.

9 Her filthinesse is in her skirts,
her end she did forget:
And therefore was she wondrouslie
intrapped in the net.
She had no comforter at all,
my sorrowes Lord behold:
For th'aduersarie in his pride,
my doings hath controld.

10 The enemie with violence
hath stretched out his hand:
Vpon her chiefest treasuries,
and pleasures of the land.
And she hath seene the heathen go
into her holie place.
Who thou comandest should not come
therein in anie case.

11 Her people sigh & seeke their bread,
and willinglie do giue,
Their pleasant things for sustenance,
their hunger to relieue.

Looke downe O Lord vpon my state,
my miserie consider :
For I am vile, therefore with speed,
my fillie soule deliuier.

12 All ye that trauell by this waie
behold my present paine :
What sorrow may compared be
with this which I sustaine ?
Which for my disobedience
the Lord hath brought to passe :
Euen in the day when as his wrath
and furie kindled was.

13 Into my bones is fier falne,
sent from his heauenlie throne :
The which preuailing is the cause
of this my grieuous mone.
He spred a net to trap my feete,
and giuing me the foile :
He made me dailie destitute,
in heauiness to toile.

14 The yoke of my transgressions,
is planted with his hand, (strength
Whose multitude dooth make my
vnable for to stand.
So that the same doth fade awaie,
and I in wofull wise:
Vnto my foes am yelded vp,
notable for to rise.

15 In midſt of me the Lord hath caſt
my valiant men to ground:
Aſſembling manie multitudes,
my young men to confound.
As they that do the winepreſſe tread,
ſo do his ſteps appeare:
Vpon the virgin to extend
euuen Iudaes daughter deare.

16 For theſe things do I mourne with
that do mine eies destroy: (teares
Because the comforter that ſhould
my ſoule refresh with ioy
Is farre awaie, my children eke
in desolation waile,
Because the enemies auault
againſt them do preuaile,

17 In vaine for comfort Sion hath
 her hands erected out:
 The Lord hath caused Iacobs foes
 to compasse him about.
 Amidst them all Hierusalem
 polluted is vwith sinne:
 And like a stained cloth defild,
 her cottages vwithin.

18 The Lord is iust vwhose preceptes
 I haue reieected quite: (true
 Wherfore ye people all behold,
 the sorrovv I recite.
 My virgins pure and yongmen eke,
 vvhich did my state adorne:
 In bondage and captiuitie,
 are grieuouslie forlorne.

19 I called for my louers then,
 but they did shrinke avvay:
 And in the citie both my priests,
 and elders did decay.
 And vwhilest they sought for sustenance
 their soules to satisfie:
 For vvant therof through hunger smart
 they died dolefullie.

20 Behold

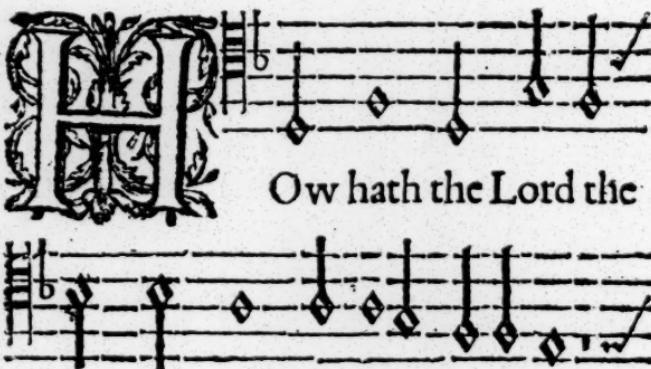
20 Behold O Lord my troubles great,
and marke my sorrowves vwell :
Mine heart vwithin me turned is
my bovvels also svvell.
For I am full of heauiness,
in miserie I toile :
And euен as death doth kill at home,
so svvord abrode doth spoile.

21 My mourning is declard abroade
yet comfort none I find :
Mine enemies that heare thereof
full ioifull are in mind.
In that thou hast afflicted me,
yet vvilt thou bring to passe,
The daie that thou hast promised,
to vvast them as the grasse.

22 Let all their vvickednesse be made
apparant vnto thee :
And scourge them vwith the punishmēts
that thou hast shevved mee.
Whose heauie plagues for my misdeeds
on me extended are :
Therefore I sigh, my heart also
oppressed is vvith care.

The second Chapter.

The Prophet lamenteth the ouerthrowe
of the people, of the kingdome, the
worship of God, and of the whole re-
gion : and therefore setting downe
his commiseration or pitying thereof,
he amplifieth the grieuousnesse of their
miseries, and also the unworthiness
thereof: and at length he instructeth
the Iewes howe they shall craue mercie
of God.

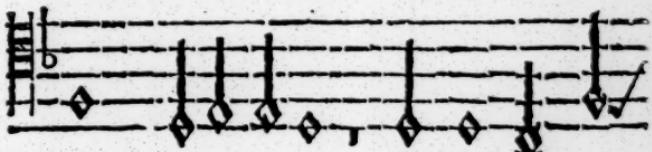


Ow hath the Lord the
daughters light, of Sion put away ?

Euen



Euen in the fury of his wrath, and



brought vnto decay. The beauty faire



of Israell, with great and grieuous



fall : And in his ire his foostebole



hee, remembreth not at all.

2 All Jacobs habitations
the Lord destroyed hath:

E 4

And

And casteth off the daughter deere,
of Iuda in his wrath.

He hath throwne downe vnto the groûd
the kingdoms fraught with sin.

And therewithall the princes great
that gouerned therein.

3 The horne of Israell also,
that did in glorie stand :

He hath cut downe and giuen them
into the enemies hand.

In Iacob like a flame of fire,
then kindling did arise :

The which deuouring round about,
sent smoke vnto the skies.

4 He stretched out his own right hand,
euен as an enemie :

On euerie goodlie thing that was
delightfull to the eie.

Within the habitation,
of Sions daughter deare,

The heate and rigour of his wrath
like fier did appeare.

5 The Lord with anger then beset,
destroied Israell :

Consuming all his pallaces,
which greatlie did excell.

His walled forts he did destroie,
and furthermore procure
Euen Iudaes daughter in distresse,
and mourning to endure.

6 His tabernacle he hath spoild,
like to a garden gaie :

His congregation also
he hath consumed awaie.
The feasts and Sabbath he hath made
in Sion now forgot :

And in his furie he the king
and Priest remitted not.

7 His altar and his holie place,
the Lord hath quite forsaken :

And by their foe hath cauf'd their wals
in peeces to be shaken.

Who makes a noise therein as though
the feasts obserued were :

But with exceeding blasphemie:
as plainlie doth appere.

3 The Lord pretended to destroie,
by stretching out a line

The wals of Sion, and from spoile
his hands do not decline.

The verie stones and rampire he
hath caused to lament :

So grieuous are his punishments,
which he to them hath sent.

9 Her gates are sunke vnto the ground,
her barres in sunder broke :

Her king and princes subiect are
vnto the Gentiles stroke.

The law ffrom them departed is,
the Prophets liue in feare :

For that no vision from the Lord,
vnto them doth appeare.

10 Her elders sit vpon the ground,
fro mwords they do abstaine :

And throwing dust vpon their heads,
their miseries eomplaine.

With sack cloth they do gird theselues,
in signe of sorrow deepe :

The virgins of Hierusalem,
hang downe their heads and weepe.

11 Mine eies with gush ing teares doe
my bowels troubled bee: [faile,
My liuer is vpon the earth,
effused,for to see
My people thus to be destroyed:
for in the cities lie
The babes and sucklings in a swoone,
and readie for to die.

12 Vnto their mothers wofullie,
for want of food they said:
Our hungrie bodies to relieu,
now giue vs drinke and bread.
Whenas they swooned in the streets,
and in the cities coast:
Euen in their mothers bosome, where
they yeelded vp the ghost.

13 What witnessse need I take for thee,
whereto shall I compare
Hierusalem or Sions state,
to ease thee of thy care?
Thy sorrow great and grieuous is,
like that which those affaie:
Which saile on seas, thy wo who cures
the cause of thy deacie?

Thy

14 Thy Prophets vain & foolish things
 haue looked out for thee :
 Not once discouering thy sinne,
 and vile iniquitie.
 To turne away thy banishment,
 and force of future shame :
 But haue false prophesies declar'd,
 the causes of the same.

15 The passengers do clap their hands,
 and hisse at thy decaie :
 They wag their heads to see thy state,
 and thus of thee they say :
 Is this the citie nois'd abrode
 in beautie to excell ?
 The ioy of all the earth, as men
 euen of a truth do tell.

16 Thine enemies with open mouth,
 assemble all about :
 They gnash their teeth, and therewithall
 these words they thunder out.
 Our long expected day we haue
 now seene and also found:
 Wherefore let vs destroie them all,
 and beat them to the ground.

17 The Lord his word & purpose hath
decreed now to do:
which hee by iustice in his ire
intended long ago.
He hath not spared to destroie
and made the enemie
Triumphantlie for to reioise,
exalting him on hie.

18 Their heart did crie against the Lord
O wall of Sion gaie:
Let teares run downe like water brooks
from thee both night and daie.
Let not thy senses dulled be
through sleepe and heauiness,
But call to God vncessantlie,
thy sorrowes to redresse.

19 Crie in the night and watches eke,
powre out thine heart also:
Before the Lord like gushing stremes
that from the waters flo.
Lift vp thine hands to him alwaie,
thy children to maintaine:
That faint for hunger in the streates,
and plunged are in paine.

20 Consider

- 20 Consider Lord on whom thou dost
thy wrath and vengeance powre:
Oh shall the women forced be
their children to deuowre?
Or shall the Priest and Prophet both,
in wofull wise be slaine:
That none within thy holie place,
hereafter shall remaine?

- 21 The yong and old vpon the ground
within the streets do lie:
My virgins and my yong men are,
by sword compeld to die.
Which in thy furious daie of vvrath,
and indignation,
Thou hast destroied and beaten downe,
not sparing anie one.

- 22 My foes about me thou hast cald,
as in a solemne daie:
Which furiouslie with murder great,
my safetie do betraie.
For those whom I haue nourished,
and carefullie brought vp:
Mine enemie enforced hath,
to tast of deadlie cup.

The third Chapter.

The Church of the Iewes reasoneth concerning the most grieuous miseries sent of God, and declaring her spirituall combats, she setteth downe that with a sure faith in God by the things which were present, the examples going before, the nature and promises of God, she liueth in hope of saluation: and last of all confessing her sinnes, and amplifying the punishmēts present, she beseecheth God for her owne deliurance, & for the destruction of the aduersaries.



Am the man that haue



Sustained, and felt affliction: Euen in
the



the rod and fury of, his indignation.



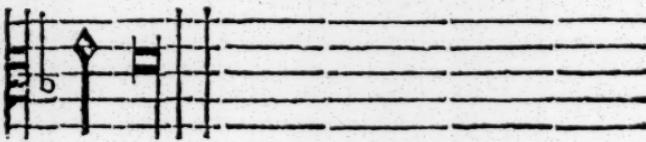
2 In darkesome denne he hath me led,



wheras no light I see : 3 And all the



day his heauy hand, full sore oppref-



seth me.

4 My flesh and skinne are withered,
my bones also are broke :

5 And

5 And he against me builded hath,
to toile with grieuous yoke.

6 In places darke he hath me set,
as they that die for aie :

7 His hedges also hold me in,
my chaines full heauie waie.

8 And when I prarie and call to him,
he shitteth out my cry:

9 He stops my waies with hewen stome
that I cannot passe by.

10 He was to me euen as a beare,
that waiteth for the prarie :

And as a Lion that doth lurke,
in secret by the waie.

11 He stops my waies,also my flesh,
in peeces he hath torne:

And made me dailie desolate,
and grieuouslie forlorne.

12 He bent his bow and caused me,
his arrow marke to bee :

13 And made his arrowes pearce my
with great extremitie. (reines

14 Euen as a ieasting stocke I was,
derided of my foes:

15 My senses he with bitterness,
hath caused me to lose.

16 With stones he broken hath my
with ashes couering me: (teeth;

17 My soule far off from peace did then
forget prosperitie.

18 And said my strength and hope also
is perished from God:

19 Remembryng mine affliction,
by this his bitter rod.

20 My soule recording then doth in
humilitie remaine:

21 And waiting perfectlie thereof,
I steadfast hope retaine.

22 It is a maruell that we are,
not vtterlie destroide:

But that Gods mercies do excell,
and are not alwaies voide.

23 Each morning they renued are,
great is his faithfulnessse:

24 And he my portion doth remaine,
to ease mine heauinessse.

25 The Lord is good to them that trust
vnto his Maiestie.

And to the soule that seeketh him,
he proffereth courtesie.

26 It is both good to trust and wait,
for Gods saluation :

27 And in thy youth to beare the yoke
of his affliction.

28 For whosoeuer in effect,
afflictions do sustaine :

He sits alone full quietlie,
and silence doth retaine.

29 With humble mind he doth submit
himselfe in his distresse :

As he that falleth on the ground,
and hopeth for redresse.

30 He yeeldes his checke to him that
and is with sorrows tost: (smites,

31 Yet doth not God forsake him quite,
for euer to be lost.

32 For though he send affliction,
vpon his children deere :

Yet will he haue compassion,
euен of his mercie meere.

33 He taketh no delight at all,
his punishments to send :

But doth it of necessitie,
our liues for to amend.

34 In suffering the wicked man,
the simple to oppresse :

35 To ouerthrow his proper right,
before Gods holinesse.

36 Subuerting each man in his cause,
by his vniust pretence :

37 So that there's nothing happeneth,
without Gods prouidence.

38 Doth not both good and euill come,
by his permission :

39 Why mourneth man who for his
doth beare affliction. (sinne,

40 Let vs both search and trie our waies
and turne vnto the Lord :

41 And lift our hearts & hands on high
to him with one accord.

42 Against thee Lord we sinned haue,
therefore thou hast not spared :

43 But caused vs with grieuous paine,
in slaughter to be snared.

44 And

44 And with a cloud thy selfe thou hast
bewrapped thoroughlie:

That our petitions should not come,
before thy maiestie.

45 Euen as the refuse of the world,
detested euerie where:

So vnto all men thou dost make
our honour to appeare.

46 Our foes do raile vpon vs sore,
and we intrapped are:

47 With feare and desolation,
and in a deadlie snare.

48 Mine eie for sorrowe great whole
of water casteth out: (streames
To see my people wrongfullie,
destroied round about.

49 Mine eie vncessant drops doth yeeld
which issue out apace:

50 Till that the Lord from heauen see,
into my wretched case.

51 Mine eie to see my people slaine
doth cause mine heart to rew:

52 And as a bird without a cause,
my foes did me pursue.

53 They shut me vp in mirie den,
and cast on me a stome :

54 The waters couered me, and I
did thinke I had beene gone,

55 Out of the dungeon deepe, O Lord,
I called on thy name :

56 Thou heardst my voice, wherfore
the meaning of the same. (regard

57 And in the daie wherein I calde,
to me thou drewest neare :

To comfort me in my distresse,
and bad me not to feare.

58 O Lord thou hast redeemd my life,
my cause thou dost maintaine :

59 Judge then my right, for thou hast
the wrong that I sustaine. (seene

60 Thou hast their vengeance seene O
their thoughts also espide: (Lord,

61 And thou hast heard their vyle re-
and their deuises tride. (proch,

62 The lips also of those that did
against me dailie rise:

And wisperings of wicked men,
that did my death deuise.

63 In sitting downe and rising vp,
their dailie songs am I :

64 Giue them therefore a recompence,
O Lord accordinglie.

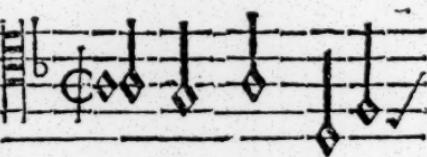
65 Giue them an heart with sorrow
thy curse vpon them send : (fild,

66 Destroy them frō the earth,O Lord
and plague them in the end,

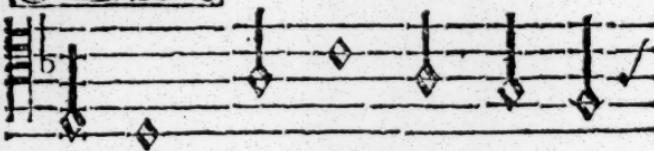


The fourth Chapter.

The Prophet bewailing the miseries of
the Church and people in many words,
declareth that the cause thereof is pla-
ced in the iudgement of God, who was
incensed agaynst the Iewes for their
sinnes past, and their present vanitie
and hardnes of hart: and at length he
foretelleth that destruction shall come
vpon the aduersaries, and deliuernace
shall appeare to the godly in due time.



Ow is the gold become



so darkc, that sometime brauely

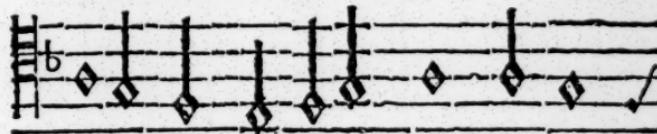
shone



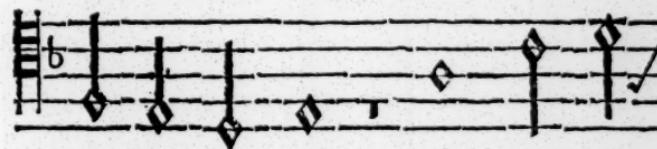
hone : The holy stones are scattered



about the streates alone ? 2 The



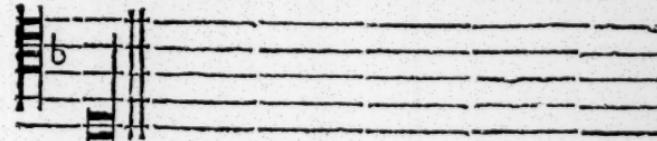
noble men of Syon fayre, to gold



that likened were: Like earth of



estimation small, full simple do ap-



peare.

3 The

3 The dragons fell, to feed their yong,
great trauaile vndertake:

But Iuda like an Ostrich, doth
her children yong forsake.

4 The sucklings tonges vnto their
for thirst full close do sit: (mouthes,
They craue relieve, but no man doth,
to them distribute it.

5 They that with dilitates were fed,
do perish now apace:

And those that were in skarlet wrapt,
the dunghils do embrace.

6 Because their sianes far greater then,
the Sodomites did shew:
That was destroid suddenlie,
without the force of fo.

7 Her Nazarites as pure as snow,
and lively coloured:

Euen as the ruddie precious stones,
or Saphyre pullished.

8 Are now as blacke as anie cole,
that they cannot be knowne:
Their skin adioining to their bones,
like withered stocke is growne.

9 They

- 9 They that do perish by the sword,
are at a better staic :
Then they that are for want of food,
compeld to pine awaie.
- 10 The women that were pitifull,
haue sod their children deare :
Whiche in this spoile and cruell dearth,
their onelie succour were.
- 11 The Lord fulfilled hath his wrath,
and powred out his ire :
The rootes of Sion he destroied,
by hote consuming fire.
- 12 No king on earth would haue be-
that anie forreine fo : (leu'd,
By force of armes durst secme to come,
Hierusalem into.
- 13 For sinne of Priests & Prophets both
that in the midst of her :
Haue shed the guiltlesse blood of such,
as good and godlie were.
- 14 As blind men they haue wandered,
with blood defilde all ouer :
So that they vwould not touch their
their bodies for to couer. (clothes
- 15 But

- 15 But euerie one to them did crie,
 with fierce and cruell mood:
 Depart, depart, and touch vs not,
 ye impes pollute with blood.
 Wherfore they fled, the heathen then
 did saie with enuie sore:
 They now are gone, they doubtles shall
 inhabit there no more.

- 16 The wrath of God hath scattered
 he will them not respect: (them,
 The Priests and elders they without,
 compassion reiect.
 17 We looke for helpe but all in vaine,
 our eies thereby did faile.
 We waited for a nation
 that nothing would auaile.

- 18 They hunt our steps that in the street
 we dare not once appeare:
 Our daies with griefe fulfilled are,
 our end approcheth neare.
 19 Our foes in swiftnesse do exceed,
 the eagles of the skie:
 They chase vs in the wildernesse,
 and on the mountaines hie.

20 Our king Iosia in the net,
intrapped was and slaine:
By whom we thought from feare of
in safetie to remaine. (foes,

21 Reioise O Edom thou that in,
the land of Vz dost dwell:
For vnto thee the cup shall come,
thy people to expell.

22 Thy punishment O Sion is,
accomplished in thee:
He will no more lead thee awaie,
into captiuitie.
But Edom thine iniquitie,
he visit will all ouer:
And therewithall thy wickednesse
and sinfull life discouer.

The fift Chapter.

*The Church of the Iewes reasoning with
God touching her miseries, confesseth
her sinnes: She mourneth for them, for
her punishments, for the ouerthrow of
the whole Church: Furthermore, shee
prayeth God to turne away his anger,
and craueth mercie.*



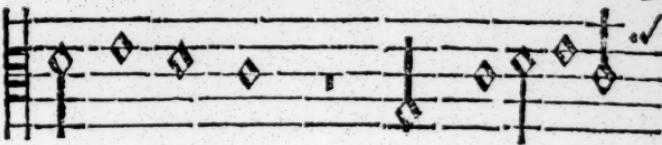
Emember Lord our



present state, wherin we do remaine:



Consider our reproach also, and shame
that



that we sustaine. 2 Our heritage by



straungers is with-holden from our



handes : The aliants also kepe away our



houses and our lands.

3 And of our fathers are we now
iniuriousle bereft :

Our mothers also comfortlesse,
as wofull widowes left.

4 Our

- 4 Our waters we for coine haue drunke
our wood also we buie:
- 5 And we are in subiection,
and restlesse miserie.
- 6 To Ashur and th'Egyptians,
we reach our hands for bread:
That they maie fill vs with the same,
whereof we stand in need.
- 7 Our fathers sinned, and their daies
in sorrow we haue worne:
And we their children after them
their wickednesse haue borne.
- 8 We are in bondage vnto thosc,
that sometime seruants were:
And for our safe deliuernace
no succour doth appeare.
- 9 We gat our bread in perill of
the enemie alwaie:
Who from the wildernesse did come,
pretending vs to sliae.
- 10 Our skin was blacke as anie ouen,
and dride for want of meat:

Because

Because the famine of the land,
vvas sharpe and verie great.

11 In Sion they the vwomen spoild,
through their affection vile:

And in the cities of Iuda,
the virgins did defile.

12 The princes they vvere hanged vp,
euен by the enemies hand:

The faces of the Elders now
in honour do not stand.

13 They tooke the yong me for to grinde:
the children also vvere

Opprest vwith burthens vwhich they
not able for to beare. (vvere

14 The Elders from the gates, also
the youths from singing cease:

15 Our ioy of heart is quite decaide,
our sorrow doth increase.

16 Our crowvn is fallen from our head,
the cities gate vwithin:

17 Wo nowv therefore vnto our state,
that euer vve did sin.

- 17 Our heart in heauiness doth pant,
these vvoidfull things to see :
Our eies through grise & sorow great
vwith vveeping dimmed bee.
- 18 Because the mountaine of Sion,
so desolate doth stand :
The foxes running therupon,
as in a barren land.
- 19 But thou O God for euer dost,
remaine both iust and pure :
Thy throne also from age to age,
for euer shall endure.
- 20 Shall we for euer be forgot ?
wilt thou no mercie take ?
Or why dost thou O Lord so long,
thy children deare forsake ?
- 21 Turne thou to vs, O Lord, and we
to thee shall turned bee :
Renue our daies as heretofore
that we maie worship thee.
- 22 But thou hast now thy little flocke,
reiccted vtterlie :
And thou with vs art angrie now,
and wroth exceedinglie.

F I N I S.



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